

NEBRASKA ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE INCENTIVES AND LAWS

Overview

The State of Nebraska offers low-cost and no-cost loans for conversion costs for fleet vehicles, incremental costs of factory-equipped alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs), and installation costs for refueling facilities. Metropolitan Utilities Distribution offers a \$500 rebate for conversions and purchases of original equipment manufacturer (OEM) compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles.

Highlights

\$ \$500 rebate from Metropolitan Utilities Distribution for conversions and purchases of CNG vehicles

State Incentives

The Nebraska Energy Office provides low-cost loans from its Dollar and Energy Saving Loan Program for the incremental cost of AFVs, conversion of public and private fleet vehicles, and purchase and installation of required fueling facilities. The program provides funding for the purchase of a dedicated AFV. The state provides no-interest loans for school systems to purchase AFVs and corresponding fueling facilities. For additional information, contact John (Jack) Osterman at (402) 471-2867.

Utility/Private Incentives

\$ **Metropolitan Utilities Distribution** offers a \$500 per vehicle rebate for conversions to CNG, with a limit on fleet size. For purchases of OEM natural gas vehicles, \$500 per vehicle is available for up to 10 vehicles per fleet. Metropolitan Utilities Distribution also offers CNG station feasibility studies, compressor pricing and sizing, and temporary refueling facilities for one year. For more information, call Gina Langel at (402) 499-8247.

The National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition (NEVC) is part of a joint public/private partnership to promote 85% ethanol (E85) as an alternative transportation fuel. Through a pilot grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, NEVC provides forgivable loans for the installation of public E85 refueling facilities. For additional information, contact Phil Lambert at (314) 635-8445.

Laws & Regulations

In 1979, the Governor issued a proclamation that all state vehicles must be fueled with 10% ethanol (E10) whenever practicable.

The Alternative Fuel Tax Act was modified in 1995. As of July 1, 1995, alternative fuels are taxed at the pump when a vehicle is fueled. The exception is that electric and solar vehicles are taxed with a \$75 annual fee.

The Ethanol Development Act established the Nebraska Ethanol Board, a fund for research, development, and promotion of renewable agricultural ethyl alcohol as an alternative fuel, and a fund for production incentives. The state provides a 20¢/gallon direct producer incentive for fuel ethanol produced in the state for plants 25% operational by December 31, 1995, with a cap of \$25 million per plant.

Executive Order No. 93-2 created the Nebraska Alternative Fuels Committee to be chaired by the Director of the Nebraska Energy Office. The Committee has published a directory map of 105 alternate fueling sites in the state for propane, CNG, 85% ethanol blends (E85), 95% ethanol blends (E95), and bio-diesel. The Committee is publishing a handbook for fleet managers on the Energy Policy Act (EPACT) and the Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA), and their impact on Nebraska.

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Points of Contact

Nebraska State Energy Office

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National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition

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Nebraska State Transportation Contact

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U.S. Department of Energy

Regional Support Offices

Kansas City Regional Support Office
Benjamin Watson (816) 426-4770

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U.S. Department of Transportation Contacts

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